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GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
Governor's Office of Homeland Security
and
Emergency Preparedness

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PRESS RELEASE

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LOUISIANA TO ASSIST VIRGINIA

Baton Rouge, LA (January 4, 2012) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) is sending four disaster recovery staff members to the State of Virginia to assist in recovery efforts for Hurricane Irene. The GOHSEP employees will process information so impacted areas can receive federal public assistance grants.

Hurricane Irene slammed the East Coast in August 2011 causing extensive wind and flood damage. GOHSEP Director Kevin Davis said, "The State of Virginia has been a true supporter to Louisiana in times of crisis. During Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike, Virginia supplied law enforcement and search and rescue teams, cadaver dogs, a mobile command post and firefighter and National Guard support. As always in times of need, we are also willing to support."

GOHSEP also assisted the states of Maryland and Vermont in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. The GOHSEP employees will be deployed for 30 days.

The request came through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). The EMAC is a formal agreement between states to provide assistance during a disaster. It was established in 1996 to allow states that are not in a declared disaster area to aid states in need.

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